IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF:

GROUP ART UNIT: 3679

HUMPERT, et al.

SERIAL NO.: 09/890,203

EXAMINER: Flemming Saether

FILED: October 5, 2001

ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.:

64913.010100

FOR: SUPPORT SYSTEM FOR FUNCTIONAL UNIT

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P. O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the United States Patent and Trademark Office Official Action mailed on December 23, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendment

Amendments to the Specification are reflected on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begins on page 10 of this paper.